

Translation of the pertinent portions of a response by KBA,
dtd. 03/18/2005

Please forward to Mr. Duguénoy!!!

**RESPONSIVE TO THE INTERVIEW OF 03/14/2005
AMENDMENTS UNDER ART. 34 PCT ARE BEING SUBMITTED**

[Handwritten note: Response by telephone from Mr. Duguénoy on 03/18/05. He will no longer take this submission into consideration!]

1. It is requested to direct the international preliminary examination exclusively to newly filed claim 1 (version of 03/18/2005) and the claims depending from it.

2. The following are being submitted

2.1 Claims (replacement pages 66, 67, 67a, version of 03/18/2005)

2.1.1 Claim

2.1.2 New claim 1 is formed from original claims 1, 2, 10 and 65, as well as from characteristics taken from the specification on page 12, paragraph 1, page 13, paragraph 2, together with page 57, last paragraph and page 48, last paragraph. It was written undivided.

2.1.3 Claim 2

Claim 2 was replaced by claim 6 depending from claim 1.

2.1.4 Claim 5, claims 3, 4, 6 to 79

Claim 5 was adapted to new claim 1. Claims 3, 4, 6 to 79 remain in the version of 08/12/2004.

3. Novelty and Inventive Activities

None of documents D1, D2, D6 or DE 24 22 696 C2 shows two satellite printing units of a width of six newspaper pages, stacked on top of each other. Furthermore, additionally none of the documents shows further printing groups arranged on two stacked satellite printing units, in particular no three-cylinder printing groups. None of the cited references shows three dressings side-by-side on the transfer cylinder. In contrast to the subject of claim 1, D6 (US 2002/0053294 A1) only shows bridge printing groups.

Even if one skilled in the art, departing from DE 24 22 696 C2, would be prompted by D1 or D2 to stack two satellite printing units of a width of six newspaper pages on top of each other, he is not induced by either D1 nor D2 to arrange additionally two three-cylinder printing groups above the two stacked nine-cylinder printing units. Furthermore, in a third step he would have to arrange three dressings side-by-side on the transfer cylinder and to embody them in a fourth step as metallic printing blankets. One skilled in the art is not induced to perform the last two steps by any of documents D1, D2, D6 or DE 24 22 696 C2.

No conclusion regarding the arrangement of two further three-cylinder printing groups above the two stacked satellite printing groups of a width of six plates can be drawn either from the generalized expression "with at least two printing units arranged one above the other" in the preamble of D1 or the drawing figures of D2. A goal-oriented way of proceeding in this respect (one of many possible further development variations) would require a second step and therefore proves the presence of inventive activities. Even if one skilled in the art in a second step would arrange an additional printing group above the two six plate wide satellite unit, neither the arrangement of three dressings side-by-side on the transfer cylinder, nor the embodiment as metal printing blankets would be suggested to him. The combination of these characteristics from various publications and parts of documents would in our opinion constitute an ex post facto view.

For example, one skilled in the art will undertake the task of creating a printing unit which shows a high degree of print quality in spite of large variability and high density (wide web, short web tracks, smallest structural space). This is attained for one in that all printing groups are embodied to be six plates wide, and that secondly additional printing groups are arranged above a printing tower with two stacked satellite printing units, wherein thirdly the printing units are specifically embodied as satellite or three-cylinder printing units and fourthly the dressings on the transfer cylinders are embodied as metal printing blankets. The two last mentioned characteristics are directed to maintaining a high print quality and lend increased stability and reduced vibration excitation to the printing unit. The mentioned types of printing units provide stability inter alia, while very narrow groove widths and therefore reduced vibration excitation results from the metal printing blankets.

Therefore, the subject of claim 1 in its entirety represents a unified attainment of the object, which is not

suggested by the prior art and thus is based on inventive activities.

Enclosures: Claims, replacement pages 66, 67, 76a [sic], version of 03/18/2005, in triplicate + marked copy of page 66.

Claims

1. A printing press with at least one first printing tower (T1, T2, T3) with two stacked satellite printing units (02),

- wherein two three-cylinder printing groups (151) are arranged on a level above the print locations of the upper nine-cylinder satellite printing unit (02),

- and wherein the cylinders of the satellite printing units (02) and of the three-cylinder printing groups (151) are designed with a width for imprinting six side-by-side arranged vertically extending printed pages in newspaper format,

- wherein the forme cylinders (16) of the printing groups have six plates side-by-side in the axial direction and the transfer cylinders (17) have three dressings (21) side-by-side in the longitudinal direction,

- and wherein the dressings (21) of the transfer cylinders (17) are embodied as metal printing blankets (21) with an elastic and/or compressible layer (22) arranged on a support plate (23).

2. The printing press in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that the two further printing groups (151) are designed as a six-cylinder printing unit (152).

3. A printing press with at least two satellite printing units (02) stacked above each other to form a first printing tower (T1, T2, T3), characterized in that a further printing unit (152) with two printing groups (151) is

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additionally assigned to the two satellite printing units (02) on a level above the print locations of the upper satellite printing unit (02), by means of which at least two webs (B10, B20, B30, B40), which had been imprinted on one side in the two stacked satellite printing units (02), can be imprinted in one color on their other sides, and that the

cylinders of the satellite printing units (02) and of the further printing group (151) are designed with a width for imprinting six side-by-side arranged vertically extending printed pages in newspaper format.

4. The printing press in accordance with claim 1 or 3, characterized in that the satellite printing units (02) have printing groups designed as offset printing groups.

5. The printing press in accordance with claim 1, 2 or 3, characterized in that the three-cylinder printing groups (151) are designed as printing groups for indirect planographic printing.

6. The printing press in accordance with claim 3, characterized in that the two further printing groups (151) are embodied as six-cylinder printing units (152).

7. The printing press in accordance with claim 1, 2. 3 or 6, characterized in that the further printing group (151), the at least two further printing groups (151) and the six-cylinder printing unit (152), respectively, is or are arranged stacked on the first printing tower (T1, T2, T3).

8. The printing press in accordance with claim 1, 2, 3 or 6, characterized in that the further printing group (151), the at least two further printing groups (151) and the six-cylinder printing unit (152), respectively, is or are arranged stacked on a printing tower (T1, T2, T3) with two

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satellite printing units (02) associated with each other,
which adjoins the first printing tower (T1, T2, T3).

9. The printing press in accordance with claim 1, 3 or 8, characterized in that by means of the two satellite printing units (02) of the printing tower (T1, T2, T3) associated with each other it is selectively possible to

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imprint two webs (B10, B20, B30, B40) respectively multi-colored on one side, or one web (B10, B20, B30, B40) multi-colored on both sides.

10. The printing press in accordance with claim 3 or 8, characterized in that each of the satellite printing units (02) is designed as a nine-cylinder satellite printing unit (02).

11. The printing press in accordance with claim 2 or 3, characterized in that the satellite printing units (02) and the two printing groups (151) are assigned to each other